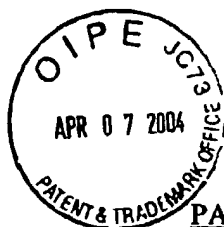


Appln. No. 10/042,241



P21836.A05 (S 899/US)

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Pascal THOMAS et al.)
Appln. No. : 10/042,241)
Docket No. : P21836)
Customer No. : 7055)
Filed : January 11, 2002)
Title : FRONT RETAINING ELEMENT)
FOR AN ALPINE SKI BOOT)

Group Art Unit 3618

Examiner J. Allen Shriver

Confirmation No. 4804

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APR 09 2004

GROUP 3600

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
TO THE OFFICE ACTION OF JANUARY 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the final Office action, dated January 21, 2004, please enter the following amendment to claim 17 which is believed to resolve the issue raised in the Office action.

Upon entry of the amendment, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.